## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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n re Application of	)	
an R. Thompson et al	)	Examiner: J.E. Redman
Serial No. 09/806,573	)	
Filed: May 14, 2001	)	Group: 3634
Citle: CARLE GATE	ì	- ·

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## THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**GROUP 3600** 

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to issuing the first Office Action on the merits, please enter this preliminary amendment to the above application.

## In the Claims

Please add new independent claim 294 set forth below, which reads on the previously elected species of the invention, identified as Group I:

294. (New) A gate for controlling passage through an opening including:

a first support located on one side/of the opening;

a second support located on the other side of the opening;

at least one elongate member having a first and a second end, extendable across the opening between said first and second supports, said elongate member having a released state in which passage through said opening is/substantially unrestricted and a drawn-in state in which passage through said opening is substantially restricted;

a first drive attached to one of said first and second supports and having selective coupled and decoupled states, said first drive being engaged with said elongate member, said elongate member being drawn into its said drawn-in state by said first drive, whereby passage through said opening is substantially restricted; and

a controller, said first drive coupled and decoupled states being selected by said controller; and

wherein said elongate member is moved from its drawn-in state to its said released state in response to said first drive decoupled state being selected, and said elongate member is moved from its said released state to its said drawn-in state under the condition of said first drive coupled state being selected.

## Remarks .

Claims 147-294 are pending. No claims have yet been allowed, rejected or objected to. 20/2002 NMOHAMM1 00000045 09806573

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